

(11)

2 October 1973

Mr. R.W. Koch



Dear Mr. Koch:

This responds to your letter of 9 August 1973, to [redacted] STATINTL
[redacted] has retired and the undersigned has assumed
his former Strategic Services Unit responsibilities.

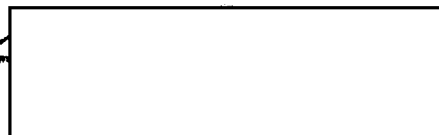
In an effort to provide a useful response to your inquiry about supply flights out of Leuchars, Scotland, and about possible air drops of "Liberator" pistols into Norway, numerous OSS files and records have been researched which we thought might bear on your questions. Our efforts were somewhat time consuming as some of the records reviewed cited others which in turn had to be located and examined. I personally reviewed many of these records which, as [redacted] probably noted in earlier correspondence, are sketchy at best and not as orderly as we would like. It is apparent that the maintenance of detailed records and chronologies received little attention during the period of OSS activities and operations.

I regret to advise that we could not identify the title or code name for OSS supply operations out of Leuchars. Further, our records do not indicate that the "Liberator" pistol was included in supplies and materiel air lifted out of Leuchars for drop into Norway. We did find several references to sorties flown out of Leuchars under the command of [redacted] However, all such references were very general and we could find no reference to a unique code name associated with the Leuchars' air supply operations. We did locate several documents which would appear to be packing lists of supplies and materiel consigned to Norway. Although the lists contain various dates in 1945 (as apposed to 1944 as suggested in your letter), I carefully examined them as the contents of the packages were itemized. The weapons included were described in detail; however, I could find no reference to the "Liberator" pistol or to "single shot" pistols.

It is obvious from my review of your earlier correspondence

that you have devoted considerable research time and effort to the "Liberator" pistol. It would seem that individuals you have already contacted represent a better source of information than our somewhat incomplete records covering the OSS period.

I am sorry that we could not be more helpful. It is very possible that the "Liberator" pistol was introduced into Norway as you suggest, but unfortunately our records do not confirm this.



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Executive Secretary

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SS/SG/I:  (2 October 1973)

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